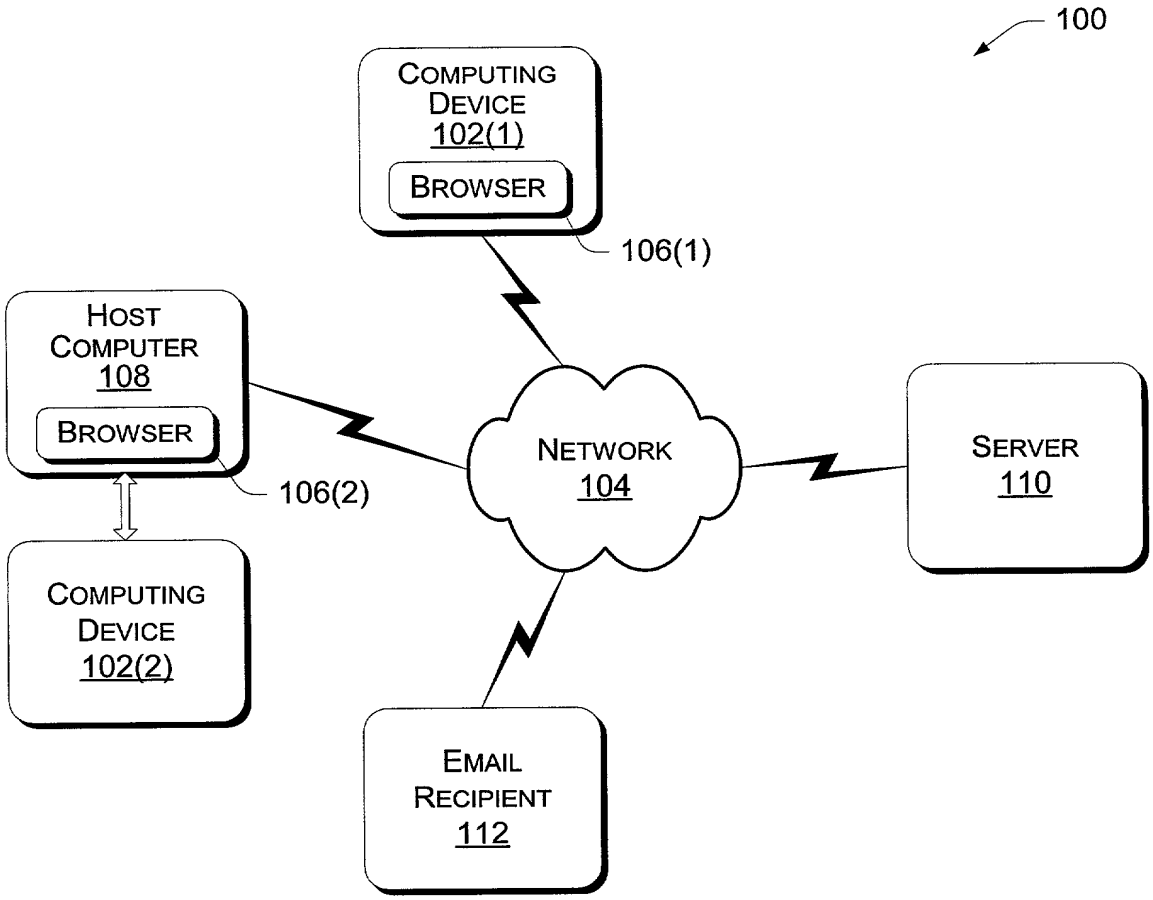
100
COMPUTING DEVICE 102(1)
BROWSER
106(1)
HOST COMPUTER 108
BROWSER
106(2)
NETWORK 104
SERVER 110
COMPUTING DEVICE 102(2)
EMAIL RECIPIENT 112

Fig. 1

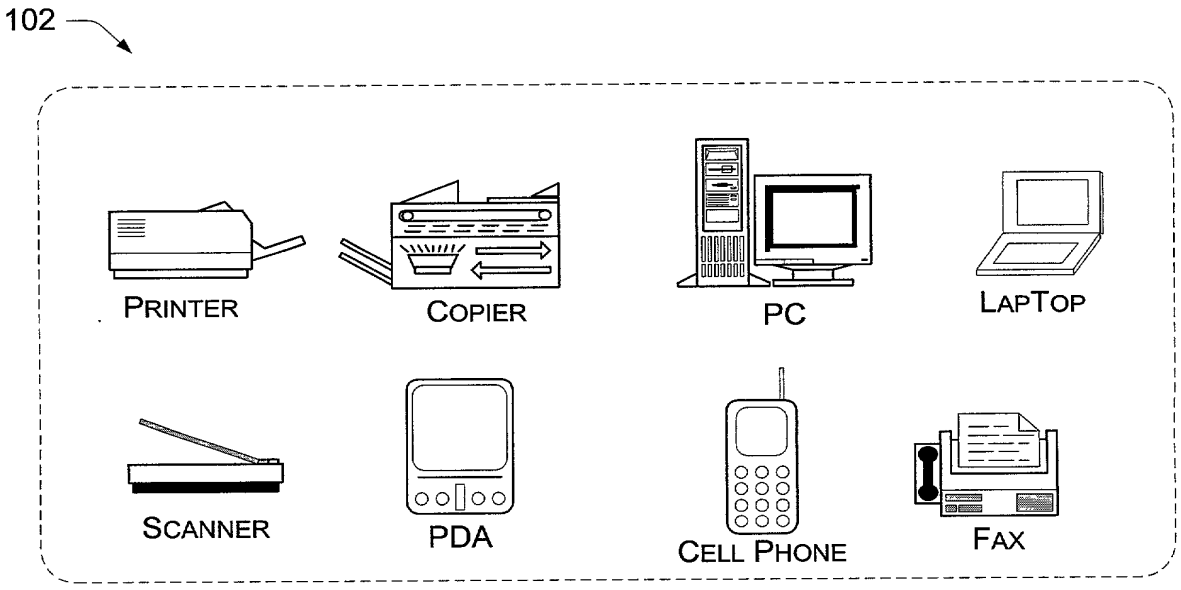
102
PRINTER
COPIER
PC
LAPTOP
SCANNER
PDA
CELL PHONE
FAX

Fig. 2

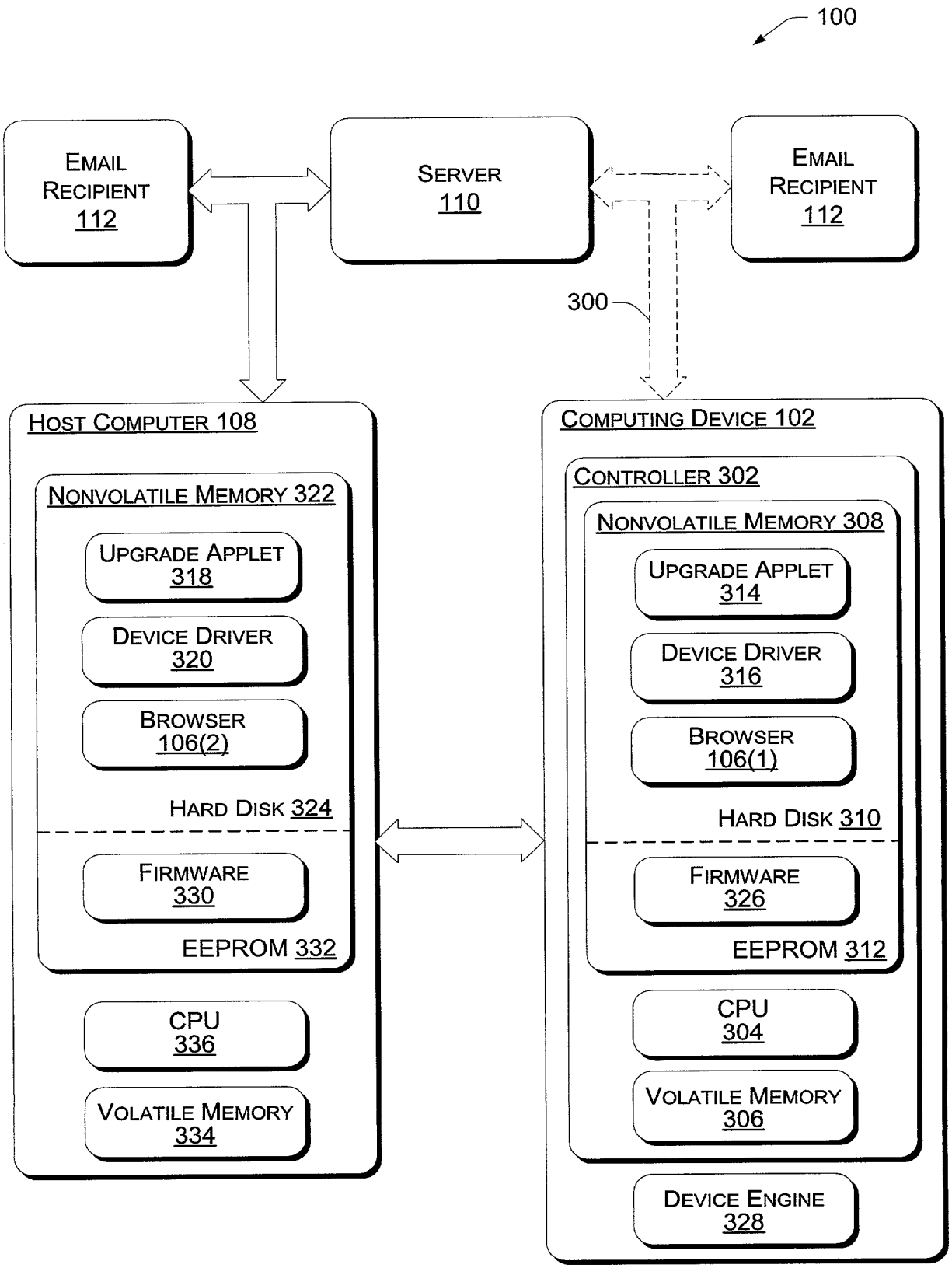
100
EMAIL RECIPIENT 112
SERVER 110
EMAIL RECIPIENT 112
300
HOST COMPUTER 108
NONVOLATILE MEMORY 322
UPGRADE APPLET 318
DEVICE DRIVER 320
BROWSER 106(2)
HARD DISK 324
FIRMWARE 330
EEPROM 332
CPU 336
VOLATILE MEMORY 334
COMPUTING DEVICE 102
CONTROLLER 302
NONVOLATILE MEMORY 308
UPGRADE APPLET 314
DEVICE DRIVER 316
BROWSER 106(1)
HARD DISK 310
FIRMWARE 326
EEPROM 312
CPU 304
VOLATILE MEMORY 306
DEVICE ENGINE 328

Fig. 3

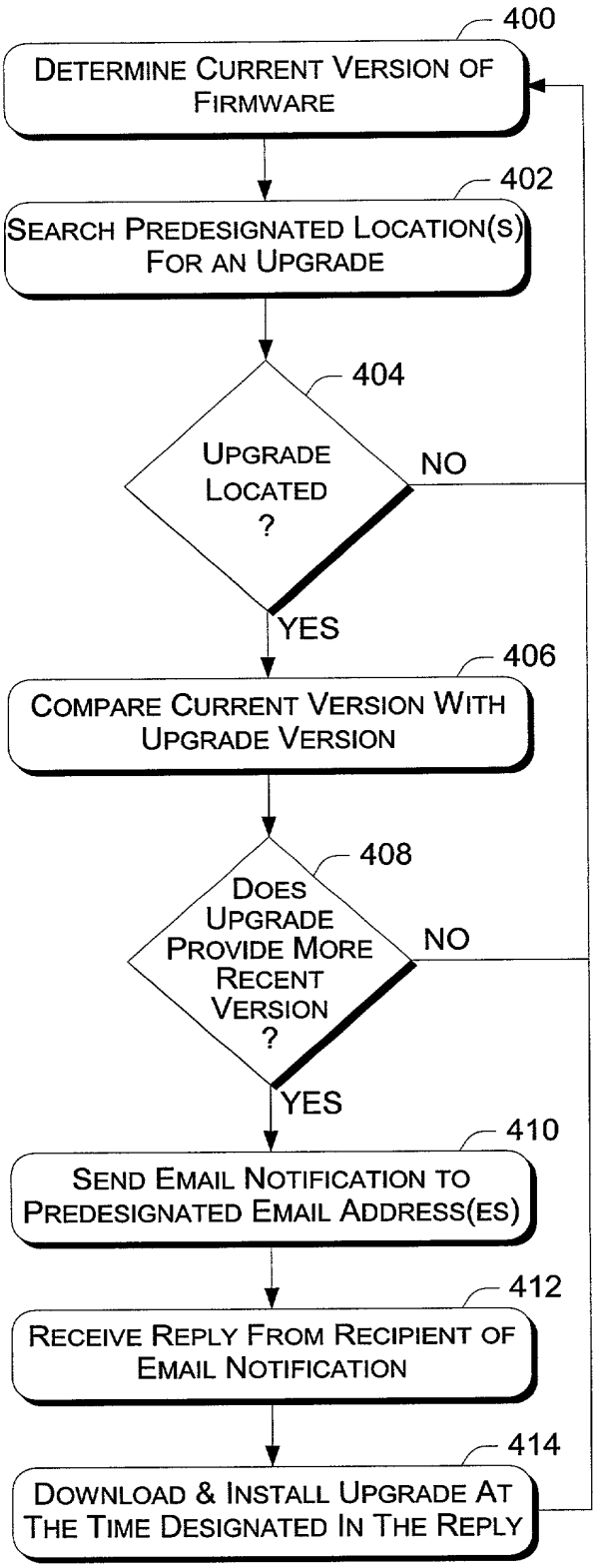
400
DETERMINE CURRENT VERSION OF FIRMWARE
402
SEARCH PREDESIGNATED LOCATION(S) FOR AN UPGRADE
404
UPGRADE LOCATED ?
NO
YES
406
COMPARE CURRENT VERSION WITH UPGRADE VERSION
408
DOES UPGRADE PROVIDE MORE RECENT VERSION ?
NO
YES
410
SEND EMAIL NOTIFICATION TO PREDESIGNATED EMAIL ADDRESS(ES)
412
RECEIVE REPLY FROM RECIPIENT OF EMAIL NOTIFICATION
414
DOWNLOAD & INSTALL UPGRADE AT THE TIME DESIGNATED IN THE REPLY

Fig. 4

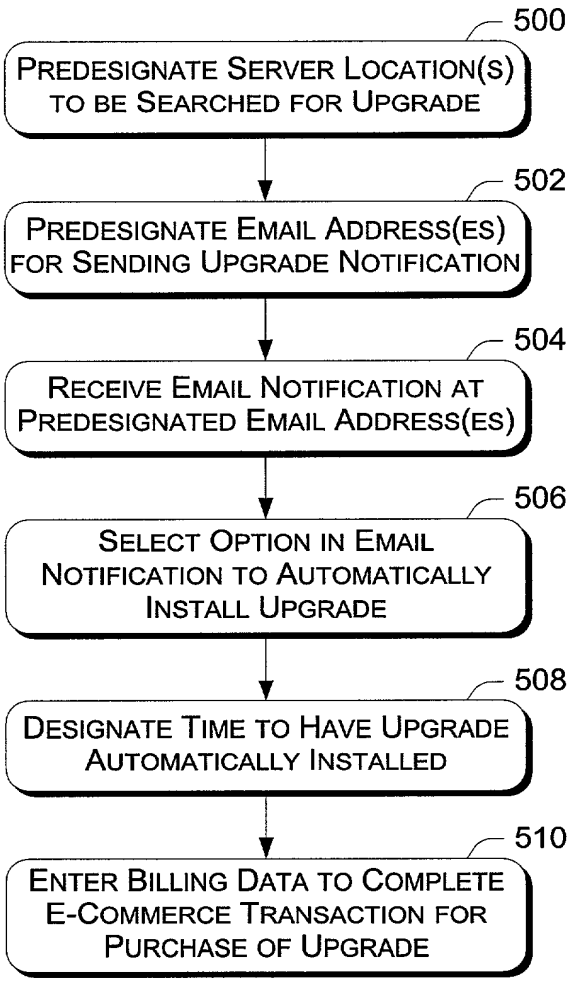
500
PREDESIGNATE SERVER LOCATION(S) TO BE SEARCHED FOR UPGRADE
502
PREDESIGNATE EMAIL ADDRESS(ES) FOR SENDING UPGRADE NOTIFICATION
504
RECEIVE EMAIL NOTIFICATION AT PREDESIGNATED EMAIL ADDRESS(ES)
506
SELECT OPTION IN EMAIL NOTIFICATION TO AUTOMATICALLY INSTALL UPGRADE
508
DESIGNATE TIME TO HAVE UPGRADE AUTOMATICALLY INSTALLED
510
ENTER BILLING DATA TO COMPLETE E-COMMERCE TRANSACTION FOR PURCHASE OF UPGRADE

Fig. 5